MULTIMEDIA UNIVERSITY

STUDENT ID NO

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# MULTIMEDIA UNIVERSITY

# FINAL EXAMINATION

**TRIMESTER 1, 2018/2019**

## PGE 0015 – GENERAL ENGLISH

(All Sections)

15 OCTOBER 2018
2.30 p.m. – 4.30 p.m.
(2 Hours)

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**INSTRUCTIONS TO STUDENT**

1. This question paper consists of **SEVEN** printed pages with **3** sections.
2. Answer **ALL** questions.
3. Write **ALL** your answers in the Answer Booklet.

## SECTION A: READING AND VOCABULARY [30 MARKS]

**Instructions:** Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow.

### Seattle: A city with a view and what happens when we lose them

1 Seattle, a city located in Washington, the state farthest north and west in the contiguous United States, is well known for its magnificent scenery. The city is surrounded by beautiful landscapes and water. Seattle is built on hills facing two lakes and Puget Sound, a body of water that leads to the Pacific Ocean. From the hills of Seattle there are **spectacular** views of snow-covered mountains. The Olympic and Cascade mountain ranges surround Settle, and there is a view of nearby Mount Rainier, an active volcano over 14,000 feet high that is covered with ice and snow.

2 Although the state of Washington borders Canada to the north, the climate of Seattle is fairly mild since it is near the ocean. The winter temperatures are not very cold, falling below freezing only a few days per year. However, the sky is often cloudy, and Seattle has a **reputation** as a city that gets little sunshine. In fact, it gets less rain than several other major American cities.

3 Seattle was named after a Native American Indian chief who was friendly and **hospitable**. He and his people, the Suquamish, helped the first American settlers who moved to the Washington area in the second half of the nineteenth century. Chief Seattle signed a peace treaty with the U.S. government in 1854 that allowed U.S. citizens to settle in the area. In signing the **treaty**, Chief Seattle hoped to avoid the fighting that had occurred in other parts of the country when settlers moved into Native American lands. In a famous speech, Chief Seattle spoke out **eloquently** against violence and encouraged the new American settlers to respect the land and the rights of the Native Americans. He declared, "This we know: The earth does not belong to man; man belongs to the earth. This we know. All things are connected like the blood which unites one family. All things are connected."

4 The Suquamish had lived in the Washington area for many generations, and they were able to live peacefully with the new settlers when they arrived. The city of Seattle was founded in 1869. The population grew very quickly after the Alaskan gold rush, which started in 1897. Thousands of people passed through the state of Washington on their way to look for gold in Alaska. Many stayed to develop the region, and Seattle became a growing city. Today the population of Seattle is close to 600,000 people.

5 Although it is younger than most other major American cities, Seattle has become an important centre of trade and industry and is home to some America's leading companies. Seattle is a port city that is a key centre for trade with Canada, Mexico, Europe and many Asian countries. Because of its location in the western part of the United States near the Pacific Oceans, it is sometimes called the "Gateway to Asia." For many years, Seattle has been a prosperous city with major industries such as aerospace, which produces airplanes and spacecraft. In recent years, the city has become famous as the centre of some major contemporary corporations. Seattle is the home and headquarters of Starbucks, a leading coffee company.

6 The first Starbucks café opened in Seattle in 1971, and the business had expanded to thousands of locations around the world. Another important industry for Seattle is computer software, for the giant company Microsoft has its headquarters near Seattle. In addition, the founder of amazon.com, the online company, moved to Seattle to create his new business and established its headquarters there. Today,

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Seattle is a wonderful cosmopolitan city with a **thriving** economy.

7 Seattle has a mild climate, successful industries, and great nature beauty, and it is well known for the high level of its education and cultural attractions. One of the major architectural sites in the city is a beautiful and large public library, which opened in 2004. Designed by a prominent Dutch architect, the library has contemporary designs and many **high-tech** features. Seattle has also earned a reputation as a progressive city. In several surveys, Americans have chosen Seattle as one of the most desirable places to live in the United States.

8 In the clip released by Google's Ricardo Martin Brualla in January 2018, skyscrapers emerge from the ground, barriers of steel and glass rising up like the structures in the *Game of Thrones* opening credits. All around, dirt patches and green spaces give way to newly paved roads. What you may not have noticed, though, is how that development cuts off much of the city from the natural beauty that surrounds it. From an aesthetic point of view, Seattleites have always been lucky—Mount Rainier, Puget Sound, the Cascades, Lake Washington, and Lake Union provide endless eye shots.

9 "People are just drawn to it **instinctively**," says Seattle architect Nils Finne. "You feel this level of connection and attachment, simply because you can gaze out over it. I just think human beings are drawn to that as a way of...maybe finding our small little place in the world." Thus, by finding and then clinging to those little places has recently led to desperate measures. In February, for instance, the city settled a lawsuit against a group of West Seattle homeowners who allegedly paid to cut down 153 trees, all so they could enjoy unobstructed views of Puget Sound and downtown.

10 In reality, single-family homeowners have little reason to worry. They, for the most part, are safe from surrounding rezoning that would add height to new development in efforts to create more affordable housing. So the question then becomes, "Who's affected most by disappearing landscapes when the majority of the U.S. population—over 80 percent—lives in urban areas?" As views of nature become scarcer, and pricier, access to those green scenes for homeowners could **inevitably** fall to the wealthy few.

11 Finne estimates views can add $100,000 or more to a building's value. Nationwide, a waterfront view can be more than double the worth of the home itself, according to Zillow. A recent comparison between two identical Alki condo units revealed the unit a floor higher was worth $68,000 (9 percent) more than its lower-story counterpart. Researchers for decades have highlighted the problem of limited access to desirable views. Studies show that hospital patients, workers, and students with access to green landscapes—even with something as simple as a window displaying some trees—tend to focus better, achieve lower stress levels, and recover or perform better.

12 In short, everyone loses when green landscapes start to vanish, which is one of the reasons that time-lapse video by Google's Brualla was such a hit. Within a month of its release, nearly 500,000 people had watched it on YouTube. It drew both shock and dismay—nostalgic Seattleites **resenting** the growth, and the growing pains that come with it.

*Adapted from* Hayat Norimine. (2018, March 27). Seattle: A city with a View and what happens when we lose them. Retrieved from: https://www.seattlemet.com/articles/2018/3/27/what-s-are-seattle-views-really-worth-and-what-happens-when-we-lose-them

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**Question 1: Contextual Clues (10 marks)**
**Instructions:** Based on the passage, provide a word or phrase that best defines each of the following words.

a) spectacular (line 5)

b) reputation (line 11)

c) hospitable (line 14)

d) treaty (line 17)

e) eloquently (line 19)

f) thriving (line 45)

g) high-tech (line 50)

h) instinctively (line 61)

i) inevitably (line 73)

j) resenting (line 87)

**Question 2: True-False Statement (5 marks)**
**Instructions:** For each statement, write **TRUE** if the statement is true and **FALSE** if the statement is false.

a) Based on the article, Seattle developed as a city because of the Alaskan gold rush.

b) The article claimed that Seattle is the home to most of America's leading companies.

c) It was mentioned in the article that Aerospace industry is a recent industry in Seattle.

d) The Suquamish did not get along well with the new settlers in Seattle.

e) Seattle is sometimes called the "Gateway to Asia" because it is near the Pacific Ocean.

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**Question 3: Distinguish Fact from Opinion (5 marks)**
**Instructions:** Indicate whether each of the following statements from the article is a fact or an opinion.

a) The Olympic and Cascade mountain ranges surrounded Seattle, and there is a view of nearby Mount Rainier, an active volcano over 14,000 feet high that is covered with ice and snow.

b) Chief Seattle signed a peace treaty with the U.S. government in 1854 that allowed U.S. citizens to settle in the Washington area.

c) Chief Seattle hoped to avoid the fighting that had occurred in other parts of the country when settlers moved into Native American lands.

d) The first Starbucks café opened in Seattle in 1971, and the business has expanded to thousands of locations around the world.

e) In short, everyone loses when green landscapes start to vanish. Which is maybe one of the reasons that time-lapse video by Google's Brualla was such a hit.

**Question 4: Comprehension (10 marks)**
**Instructions:** Answer the following questions in complete sentences.

a) What does Chief Seattle mean when he says, *"This we know: The earth does not belong to man; man belongs to the earth. This we know. All things are connected like the blood which unites one family. All things are connected."* (2 marks)

b) Provide two supporting details why Seattle has become an important centre of trade and industry and is home to some America's leading companies (Paragraph 5). (2 marks)

c) What is the main idea that the author is trying to highlight in Paragraph 8 of the article? (2 marks)

d) How do you think the author feels about nature in Paragraph 10? (2 marks)

e) What can be predicted when the author claimed, *"Seattleites resenting the growth, and the growing pains that come with it."* (line 87-88) (2 marks)

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## SECTION B: GRAMMAR [10 MARKS]

**Question 1: Sentence errors (10 marks)**
**Instructions:** This extract contains five errors in fragment and five errors in run-ons. Identify and correct the errors as illustrated in the example.

| No. | Line | Error | Correction |
|---|---|---|---|
| 0 | 2 | **... James Scott addressed the Hay Festival on this very subject he is the co-author of ...** | **... James Scott addressed the Hay Festival on this very subject. He is the co-author of ...** |

**How Artificial Intelligence can make the world better?**

What exactly is artificial intelligence? Data scientist James Scott addressed the Hay Festival on this very subject he is the co-author of AIQ: How Artificial Intelligence Works and How We Can Harness Its Power for a Better World, a book that sets out to demystify the world of artificial intelligence.

"When you think of AI, don't think of a droid," says Scott. "Don't think of R2D2, or The Terminator, or the Daleks from Doctor Who. Think of an algorithm. An algorithm is literally just a set of instructions that are so simple and direct even something as literal-minded as a computer can follow them.

"You're all familiar with algorithms too; pick up a famous cookbook, Mary Berry's Guide to Cakes or whatever. That is an algorithm for baking a Victoria sponge. It's just a set of instructions an AI is just a pipeline of algorithms."

These algorithms work together so quickly that it gives you the illusion of intelligence, but as Scott discussed, the concept of creating a machine that is truly smarter than we are is a long way off. It would be as if the inventor of the jet engine in the 1950s worried about. The implications of warp speed travel to other galaxies.

Of course, there are more grounded fears about giving up our personal data so that these algorithms can make more informed decisions. The potential for abuse. However, if it is used responsibly, there are incredible things that could be achieved with artificial intelligence. Here is one of it.

After being disgusted with hospital conditions during the Crimean War, Florence Nightingale championed healthcare reform in the 19th century. A statistician herself, she noted that every hospital in London had its own method of classifying illnesses; by standardising to a common system allowed them to share knowledge more easily and lead to better diagnoses.

Scott argues that face a similar problem today, except in the form of incompatible medical databases. Healthcare systems often have outdated technology in the case of his native US with its private healthcare, every hospital may have a different company's software installed which will not work well with each other.

Healthcare data is a tricky area; so, privacy issues involved are important and must be addressed – although again there is ongoing tech research into how this could be made secure. However, believes doctors could use a common database of patient information, as the greater data-sets would allow for algorithms to recognise patterns faster and potentially leading to earlier warning

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signs of diseases.

Furthermore, productivity could be improved with AI. Medical image recognition could be used to speed up diagnosis from MRI scans, X-rays etc. In the US, studies show medical staff spend up to a third of their time doing data entry. So, voice recognition AI assistants would enable faster entry allowing to have the time to be spent on more important work, or at least stop them having to work 15 hour shifts.

*Adapted from* Scott, J. (2018, June 15). How Artificial Intelligence can make the world better? Retrieved from: http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/articles/30QqVcbpp9CNB2MPtKwZR4q/seven-ways-artificial intelligence-can-make-the-world-better

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## SECTION C: WRITING [20 MARKS]

**Instructions:** A study was carried out on the number of Guests to the three hotels in 2005 and 2015 and the facilities provided by the hotels in 2005 and 2015. Using only the information provided in the two visuals, write a report on the results of the study. In your report, you are to link the information presented in Figure 1 and Table 1. You should write **150** to **200** words.

**Figure 1: Number of Guests to Three Hotels in 2005 and 2015**

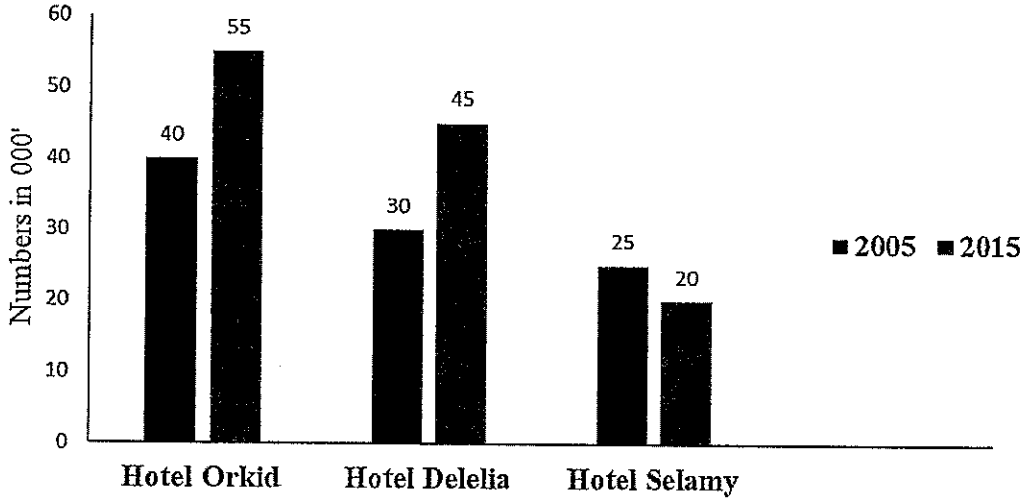


Table 1: Facilities provided by the Hotels in 2005 and 2015

| Facilities | Hotel Orkid | | Hotel Delelia | | Hotel Selamy | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 2005 | 2015 | 2005 | 2015 | 2005 | 2015 |
| Free Wi-Fi | √ | √ | √ | √ | √ | √ |
| Swimming Pool | √ | √ | √ | √ | | |
| Board Games | | √ | | | √ | |
| Mini Library | | √ | | | | |
| 24-hour Reception | √ | √ | √ | √ | | |
| Free Laundry Service | √ | √ | | √ | | |

**End of paper**